

## 48262 to 48282—Continued.

been cultivated and then abandoned. For affording protection to planted trees of more valuable timber, put out in lines or in patches cut in the shrubby growth, I can imagine nothing better. Native to the eastern Himalayas, from Nepal to Bhutan, at 4,000 to 6,000 feet, and in the Khasi Hills at 3,000 to 5,000 feet. (Adapted from *Gamble, Manual of Indian Timbers*, p. 438.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47711.

48273. *MICROMELUM PUBESCENS* Blume. Rutaceæ.

A small evergreen tree, native to eastern and northern India, Ceylon, and the Andamans. The bark is thin and white, and the hard close-grained wood is yellowish white. (Adapted from *Gamble, Manual of Indian Timbers*, p. 125.)

48274. *OSBECKIA STELLATA* Don. Melastomaceæ.

An ornamental shrub from 2 to 7 feet high, with reddish branchlets and membranous leaves 2 to 6 inches in length. The delicately beautiful lilac-rose flowers have four ovate ciliate petals  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across. The conspicuous stamens are incurved, and the calyx tube is pale green with green-stalked stellate hairs, each bearing eight reddish rays. (Adapted from *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*, pl. 8500.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 39126.

48275. *PREMNA SCANDENS* Roxb. Verbenaceæ.

A tree 20 to 40 feet in height, or a large climber, native to northeast Bengal, Sikkim, Bhutan, and Assam. The leaves are 11 inches long and 4 inches wide, borne on short petioles. The small greenish or yellowish flowers are in 4-inch to 10-inch lax, dense, compound corymbs. The small globose drupes are tubercled. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India*, vol. 4, p. 573.)

48276. *PRUNUS CERASOIDES* D. Don. Amygdalaceæ.

(*P. puddum* Roxb.)

A large deciduous tree, with brilliant rose-red or white flowers, native to the Himalayas from the Indus to Assam, between 2,500 and 7,000 feet, to the Khasi Hills, and to the hills of Upper Burma. It is often cultivated. The brown shining bark peels off in thin horizontal layers and the moderately hard, scented wood has a pretty shining silver grain. The wood is used in the Punjab Himalayas for walking sticks, which are made from saplings or from root suckers; in Darjiling it is occasionally used for furniture. The seeds are strung in rosaries. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India*, vol. 2, p. 314, and *Gamble, Manual of Indian Timbers*, p. 313.)

48277. *RUBIA CORDIFOLIA* L. Rubiaceæ.

Madder.

A herbaceous perennial which grows abundantly in the Punjab Himalayas from 3,200 to 10,000 feet, and in the Suliman Range. Like the European madder, the root furnishes a red dye, a mixture of alizarin and purple bronze but less lasting than that of the European madder. It is considered astringent, purgative, emetic, and useful in skin diseases. The fleshy fruit is used to overcome obstructions of the liver. (Adapted from *De Lanessan, Les Plantes Utiles des Colonies Françaises*, p. 625, and *Stewart, Punjab Plants*, p. 116.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47780.